

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
SENATE BILL NO. 1181
92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Reported from the Committee on Financial and Governmental Organization, Veterans' Affairs and Elections, March 8, 2004, with recommendation that the Senate Committee Substitute do pass and be placed on the Consent Calendar.

4352S.02C

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To repeal sections 334.100, 334.530, 334.540, 334.550, 334.655, 334.660, and 334.665, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof seven new sections relating to licensing of physical therapists and physical therapist assistants.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 334.100, 334.530, 334.540, 334.550, 334.655, 334.660, and 334.665, RSMo, are repealed and seven new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 334.100, 334.530, 334.540, 334.550, 334.655, 334.660, and 334.665, to read as follows:

334.100. 1. The board may refuse to issue or renew any certificate of registration or authority, permit or license required pursuant to this chapter for one or any combination of causes stated in subsection 2 of this section. The board shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal and shall advise the applicant of the applicant's right to file a complaint with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621, RSMo. As an alternative to a refusal to issue or renew any certificate, registration or authority, the board may, at its discretion, issue a license which is subject to probation, restriction or limitation to an applicant for licensure for any one or any combination of causes stated in subsection 2 of this section. The board's order of probation, limitation or restriction shall contain a statement of the discipline imposed, the basis therefore, the date such action shall become effective, and a statement that the applicant has thirty days to request in writing a hearing before the administrative hearing commission. If the board issues a probationary, limited or restricted license to an applicant for licensure, either party may file a written petition with the administrative hearing commission within thirty days of the effective date of the probationary, limited or restricted license seeking review of the board's determination. If no written request for a hearing is received by the administrative hearing commission within

EXPLANATION--Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

the thirty-day period, the right to seek review of the board's decision shall be considered as waived.

2. The board may cause a complaint to be filed with the administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621, RSMo, against any holder of any certificate of registration or authority, permit or license required by this chapter or any person who has failed to renew or has surrendered the person's certificate of registration or authority, permit or license for any one or any combination of the following causes:

(1) Use of any controlled substance, as defined in chapter 195, RSMo, or alcoholic beverage to an extent that such use impairs a person's ability to perform the work of any profession licensed or regulated by this chapter;

(2) The person has been finally adjudicated and found guilty, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, in a criminal prosecution under the laws of any state or of the United States, for any offense reasonably related to the qualifications, functions or duties of any profession licensed or regulated pursuant to this chapter, for any offense an essential element of which is fraud, dishonesty or an act of violence, or for any offense involving moral turpitude, whether or not sentence is imposed;

(3) Use of fraud, deception, misrepresentation or bribery in securing any certificate of registration or authority, permit or license issued pursuant to this chapter or in obtaining permission to take any examination given or required pursuant to this chapter;

(4) Misconduct, fraud, misrepresentation, dishonesty, unethical conduct or unprofessional conduct in the performance of the functions or duties of any profession licensed or regulated by this chapter, including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Obtaining or attempting to obtain any fee, charge, tuition or other compensation by fraud, deception or misrepresentation; willfully and continually overcharging or overtreating patients; or charging for visits to the physician's office which did not occur unless the services were contracted for in advance, or for services which were not rendered or documented in the patient's records;

(b) Attempting, directly or indirectly, by way of intimidation, coercion or deception, to obtain or retain a patient or discourage the use of a second opinion or consultation;

(c) Willfully and continually performing inappropriate or unnecessary treatment, diagnostic tests or medical or surgical services;

(d) Delegating professional responsibilities to a person who is not qualified by training, skill, competency, age, experience or licensure to perform such responsibilities;

(e) Misrepresenting that any disease, ailment or infirmity can be cured by a method, procedure, treatment, medicine or device;

(f) Performing or prescribing medical services which have been declared by board rule to be of no medical or osteopathic value;

(g) Final disciplinary action by any professional medical or osteopathic association or

society or licensed hospital or medical staff of such hospital in this or any other state or territory, whether agreed to voluntarily or not, and including, but not limited to, any removal, suspension, limitation, or restriction of the person's license or staff or hospital privileges, failure to renew such privileges or license for cause, or other final disciplinary action, if the action was in any way related to unprofessional conduct, professional incompetence, malpractice or any other violation of any provision of this chapter;

(h) Signing a blank prescription form; or dispensing, prescribing, administering or otherwise distributing any drug, controlled substance or other treatment without sufficient examination, or for other than medically accepted therapeutic or experimental or investigative purposes duly authorized by a state or federal agency, or not in the course of professional practice, or not in good faith to relieve pain and suffering, or not to cure an ailment, physical infirmity or disease, except as authorized in section 334.104;

(i) Exercising influence within a physician-patient relationship for purposes of engaging a patient in sexual activity;

(j) Terminating the medical care of a patient without adequate notice or without making other arrangements for the continued care of the patient;

(k) Failing to furnish details of a patient's medical records to other treating physicians or hospitals upon proper request; or failing to comply with any other law relating to medical records;

(l) Failure of any applicant or licensee, other than the licensee subject to the investigation, to cooperate with the board during any investigation;

(m) Failure to comply with any subpoena or subpoena duces tecum from the board or an order of the board;

(n) Failure to timely pay license renewal fees specified in this chapter;

(o) Violating a probation agreement with this board or any other licensing agency;

(p) Failing to inform the board of the physician's current residence and business address;

(q) Advertising by an applicant or licensee which is false or misleading, or which violates any rule of the board, or which claims without substantiation the positive cure of any disease, or professional superiority to or greater skill than that possessed by any other physician. An applicant or licensee shall also be in violation of this provision if the applicant or licensee has a financial interest in any organization, corporation or association which issues or conducts such advertising;

(5) Any conduct or practice which is or might be harmful or dangerous to the mental or physical health of a patient or the public; or incompetency, gross negligence or repeated negligence in the performance of the functions or duties of any profession licensed or regulated by this chapter. For the purposes of this subdivision, "repeated negligence" means the failure, on more than one occasion, to use that degree of skill and learning ordinarily

used under the same or similar circumstances by the member of the applicant's or licensee's profession;

(6) Violation of, or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting or enabling any person to violate, any provision of this chapter, or of any lawful rule or regulation adopted pursuant to this chapter;

(7) Impersonation of any person holding a certificate of registration or authority, permit or license or allowing any person to use his or her certificate of registration or authority, permit, license or diploma from any school;

(8) Revocation, suspension, restriction, modification, limitation, reprimand, warning, censure, probation or other final disciplinary action against the holder of or applicant for a license or other right to practice any profession regulated by this chapter by another state, territory, federal agency or country, whether or not voluntarily agreed to by the licensee or applicant, including, but not limited to, the denial of licensure, surrender of the license, allowing the license to expire or lapse, or discontinuing or limiting the practice of medicine while subject to an investigation or while actually under investigation by any licensing authority, medical facility, branch of the armed forces of the United States of America, insurance company, court, agency of the state or federal government, or employer;

(9) A person is finally adjudged incapacitated or disabled by a court of competent jurisdiction;

(10) Assisting or enabling any person to practice or offer to practice any profession licensed or regulated by this chapter who is not registered and currently eligible to practice pursuant to this chapter; or knowingly performing any act which in any way aids, assists, procures, advises, or encourages any person to practice medicine who is not registered and currently eligible to practice pursuant to this chapter. A physician who works in accordance with standing orders or protocols or in accordance with the provisions of section 334.104 shall not be in violation of this subdivision;

(11) Issuance of a certificate of registration or authority, permit or license based upon a material mistake of fact;

(12) Failure to display a valid certificate or license if so required by this chapter or any rule promulgated pursuant to this chapter;

(13) Violation of the drug laws or rules and regulations of this state, any other state or the federal government;

(14) Knowingly making, or causing to be made, or aiding, or abetting in the making of, a false statement in any birth, death or other certificate or document executed in connection with the practice of the person's profession;

(15) Soliciting patronage in person or by agents or representatives, or by any other means or manner, under the person's own name or under the name of another person or concern, actual or pretended, in such a manner as to confuse, deceive, or mislead the public

as to the need or necessity for or appropriateness of health care services for all patients, or the qualifications of an individual person or persons to diagnose, render, or perform health care services;

(16) Using, or permitting the use of, the person's name under the designation of "Doctor", "Dr.", "M.D.", or "D.O.", or any similar designation with reference to the commercial exploitation of any goods, wares or merchandise;

(17) Knowingly making or causing to be made a false statement or misrepresentation of a material fact, with intent to defraud, for payment pursuant to the provisions of chapter 208, RSMo, or chapter 630, RSMo, or for payment from Title XVIII or Title XIX of the federal Medicare program;

(18) Failure or refusal to properly guard against contagious, infectious or communicable diseases or the spread thereof; maintaining an unsanitary office or performing professional services under unsanitary conditions; or failure to report the existence of an unsanitary condition in the office of a physician or in any health care facility to the board, in writing, within thirty days after the discovery thereof;

(19) Any candidate for licensure or person licensed to practice as a physical therapist, paying or offering to pay a referral fee or, **notwithstanding section 334.010 to the contrary**, practicing or offering to practice professional physical therapy independent of the prescription and direction of a person licensed and registered as a physician and surgeon pursuant to this chapter, as a dentist pursuant to chapter 332, RSMo, [or] as a podiatrist pursuant to chapter 330, RSMo, **or any similarly validly licensed and registered person practicing in another jurisdiction**, whose license is in good standing;

(20) Any candidate for licensure or person licensed to practice as a physical therapist, treating or attempting to treat ailments or other health conditions of human beings other than by professional physical therapy and as authorized by sections 334.500 to 334.620;

(21) Any person licensed to practice as a physician or surgeon, requiring, as a condition of the physician-patient relationship, that the patient receive prescribed drugs, devices or other professional services directly from facilities of that physician's office or other entities under that physician's ownership or control. A physician shall provide the patient with a prescription which may be taken to the facility selected by the patient and a physician knowingly failing to disclose to a patient on a form approved by the advisory commission for professional physical therapists as established by section 334.625 which is dated and signed by a patient or guardian acknowledging that the patient or guardian has read and understands that the physician has a pecuniary interest in a physical therapy or rehabilitation service providing prescribed treatment and that the prescribed treatment is available on a competitive basis. This subdivision shall not apply to a referral by one physician to another physician within a group of physicians practicing together;

(22) A pattern of personal use or consumption of any controlled substance unless it

is prescribed, dispensed or administered by another physician who is authorized by law to do so;

(23) Revocation, suspension, limitation or restriction of any kind whatsoever of any controlled substance authority, whether agreed to voluntarily or not;

(24) For a physician to operate, conduct, manage, or establish an abortion facility, or for a physician to perform an abortion in an abortion facility, if such facility comes under the definition of an ambulatory surgical center pursuant to sections 197.200 to 197.240, RSMo, and such facility has failed to obtain or renew a license as an ambulatory surgical center;

(25) Being unable to practice as a physician and surgeon or with a specialty with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reasons of medical or osteopathic incompetency, or because of illness, drunkenness, excessive use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or as a result of any mental or physical condition. The following shall apply to this subdivision:

(a) In enforcing this subdivision the board shall, after a hearing by the board, upon a finding of probable cause, require a physician to submit to a reexamination for the purpose of establishing his or her competency to practice as a physician or surgeon or with a specialty conducted in accordance with rules adopted for this purpose by the board, including rules to allow the examination of the pattern and practice of such physician's or surgeon's professional conduct, or to submit to a mental or physical examination or combination thereof by at least three physicians, one selected by the physician compelled to take the examination, one selected by the board, and one selected by the two physicians so selected who are graduates of a professional school approved and accredited as reputable by the association which has approved and accredited as reputable the professional school from which the licensee graduated. However, if the physician is a graduate of a medical school not accredited by the American Medical Association or American Osteopathic Association, then each party shall choose any physician who is a graduate of a medical school accredited by the American Medical Association or the American Osteopathic Association;

(b) For the purpose of this subdivision, every physician licensed pursuant to this chapter is deemed to have consented to submit to a mental or physical examination when directed in writing by the board and further to have waived all objections to the admissibility of the examining physician's testimony or examination reports on the ground that the examining physician's testimony or examination is privileged;

(c) In addition to ordering a physical or mental examination to determine competency, the board may, notwithstanding any other law limiting access to medical or other health data, obtain medical data and health records relating to a physician or applicant without the physician's or applicant's consent;

(d) Written notice of the reexamination or the physical or mental examination shall be sent to the physician, by registered mail, addressed to the physician at the physician's last known address. Failure of a physician to designate an examining physician to the board or

failure to submit to the examination when directed shall constitute an admission of the allegations against the physician, in which case the board may enter a final order without the presentation of evidence, unless the failure was due to circumstances beyond the physician's control. A physician whose right to practice has been affected under this subdivision shall, at reasonable intervals, be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate that the physician can resume the competent practice as a physician and surgeon with reasonable skill and safety to patients;

(e) In any proceeding pursuant to this subdivision neither the record of proceedings nor the orders entered by the board shall be used against a physician in any other proceeding. Proceedings under this subdivision shall be conducted by the board without the filing of a complaint with the administrative hearing commission;

(f) When the board finds any person unqualified because of any of the grounds set forth in this subdivision, it may enter an order imposing one or more of the disciplinary measures set forth in subsection 4 of this section.

3. Collaborative practice arrangements, protocols and standing orders shall be in writing and signed and dated by a physician prior to their implementation.

4. After the filing of such complaint before the administrative hearing commission, the proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of chapter 621, RSMo. Upon a finding by the administrative hearing commission that the grounds, provided in subsection 2 of this section, for disciplinary action are met, the board may, singly or in combination, warn, censure or place the person named in the complaint on probation on such terms and conditions as the board deems appropriate for a period not to exceed ten years, or may suspend the person's license, certificate or permit for a period not to exceed three years, or restrict or limit the person's license, certificate or permit for an indefinite period of time, or revoke the person's license, certificate, or permit, or administer a public or private reprimand, or deny the person's application for a license, or permanently withhold issuance of a license or require the person to submit to the care, counseling or treatment of physicians designated by the board at the expense of the individual to be examined, or require the person to attend such continuing educational courses and pass such examinations as the board may direct.

5. In any order of revocation, the board may provide that the person may not apply for reinstatement of the person's license for a period of time ranging from two to seven years following the date of the order of revocation. All stay orders shall toll this time period.

6. Before restoring to good standing a license, certificate or permit issued pursuant to this chapter which has been in a revoked, suspended or inactive state for any cause for more than two years, the board may require the applicant to attend such continuing medical education courses and pass such examinations as the board may direct.

7. In any investigation, hearing or other proceeding to determine a licensee's or

applicant's fitness to practice, any record relating to any patient of the licensee or applicant shall be discoverable by the board and admissible into evidence, regardless of any statutory or common law privilege which such licensee, applicant, record custodian or patient might otherwise invoke. In addition, no such licensee, applicant, or record custodian may withhold records or testimony bearing upon a licensee's or applicant's fitness to practice on the ground of privilege between such licensee, applicant or record custodian and a patient.

334.530. 1. A candidate for license to practice as a physical therapist shall be at least twenty-one years of age. A candidate shall furnish evidence of such person's good moral character and the person's educational qualifications by submitting satisfactory evidence of completion of a program of physical therapy education approved as reputable by the board. A candidate who presents satisfactory evidence of the person's graduation from a school of physical therapy approved as reputable by the American Medical Association or, if graduated before 1936, by the American Physical Therapy Association, or if graduated after 1988, the Commission on Accreditation for Physical Therapy Education or its successor, is deemed to have complied with the educational qualifications of this subsection.

2. Persons desiring to practice as physical therapists in this state shall appear before the board at such time and place as the board may direct and be examined as to their fitness to engage in such practice. Applications for examination shall be in writing, on a form furnished by the board and shall include evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant possesses the qualifications set forth in subsection 1 of this section. Each application shall contain a statement that it is made under oath or affirmation and that its representations are true and correct to the best knowledge and belief of the person signing the statement, subject to the penalties of making a false affidavit or declaration. [The board shall not issue a permanent license to practice as a physical therapist or allow any person to sit for the Missouri state board examination for physical therapists who has failed three or more times any physical therapist licensing examination administered in one or more states or territories of the United States or the District of Columbia.]

3. The examination of qualified candidates for licenses to practice physical therapy shall include a written examination and shall embrace the subjects taught in reputable programs of physical therapy education, sufficiently strict to test the qualifications of the candidates as practitioners. [The examination shall be given by the board at least once each year and shall be administered to all candidates, and the examination given at any particular time shall be the same for all candidates and the same subjects shall be included and the same questions shall be asked. Candidates shall be required to achieve a passing score, as determined by the board, on an examination before being issued a license.]

4. The examination shall embrace, in relation to the human being, the subjects of anatomy, chemistry, kinesiology, pathology, physics, physiology, psychology, physical therapy theory and procedures as related to medicine, surgery and psychiatry, and such other

subjects, including medical ethics, as the board deems useful to test the fitness of the candidate to practice physical therapy.

[5. Examination grades or scores shall be preserved by the board subject to public inspection. Examination papers retained by the board shall be subject to public inspection for a period of three years, after which they may be destroyed.]

334.540. 1. The board shall issue a license to any physical therapist who is licensed in another jurisdiction and who has had no violations, suspensions or revocations of a license to practice physical therapy in any jurisdiction, provided that, such person is licensed in a jurisdiction whose requirements are substantially equal to, or greater than, the requirements for licensure of physical therapists in Missouri at the time the applicant applies for licensure.

2. Every applicant for a license pursuant to this section, upon making application and showing the necessary qualifications as provided in subsection 1 of this section, shall be required to pay the same fee as the fee required to be paid by applicants who apply to take the examination before the board. Within the limits provided in this section, the board may negotiate reciprocal compacts with licensing boards of other states for the admission of licensed practitioners from Missouri in other states.

[3. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections 1 and 2 of this section, the board shall not issue a license to any applicant who has failed three or more times any physical therapist licensing examination administered in one or more states or territories of the United States or the District of Columbia.]

334.550. [1. Upon the applicant paying a temporary license fee, the board shall issue without examination a temporary license to practice physical therapy for a period of time not to extend beyond the time when the results of the next examination are announced to any person who meets the qualifications of subsection 1 of section 334.530; provided that, the applicant has not previously been examined in one or more states or territories of the United States or the District of Columbia. The temporary license may be renewed at the discretion of the board and payment of the temporary license fee.

2. The board may once renew a temporary license issued pursuant to this section if the licensee fails to sit for the next scheduled examination; provided that, the applicant shows good and exceptional cause for failing to sit for the examination. The applicant shall state the good and exceptional cause in writing and shall verify such statement by oath. The board shall define good and exceptional cause by rules and regulations.

3. The board may issue a temporary license to any first-time applicant for licensure by examination if such person submits an agreement-to-supervise form which is signed by the applicant's supervising physical therapist.] **An applicant who has not been previously examined in another jurisdiction and meets the qualifications of subsection 1 of section 334.530, may pay a temporary license fee and submit an agreement-to-supervise form, which is signed by the applicant's supervising**

physical therapist, to the board and obtain without examination a nonrenewable temporary license. Such temporary licensee may only engage in the practice of physical therapy under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. The board shall define the scope of such supervision by rules and regulations. **The temporary license shall expire on either the date the applicant receives the results of the applicant's initial examination or within ninety days of its issuance, whichever occurs first.**

334.655. 1. A candidate for licensure to practice as a physical therapist assistant shall be at least nineteen years of age. A candidate shall furnish evidence of the person's good moral character and of the person's educational qualifications. The educational requirements for licensure as a physical therapist assistant are:

- (1) A certificate of graduation from an accredited high school or its equivalent; and
- (2) Satisfactory evidence of completion of an associate degree program of physical therapy education accredited by the commission on accreditation of physical therapy education.

2. Persons desiring to practice as a physical therapist assistant in this state shall appear before the board at such time and place as the board may direct and be examined as to the person's fitness to engage in such practice. Applications for examination shall be in writing, on a form furnished by the board and shall include evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant possesses the qualifications provided in subsection 1 of this section. Each application shall contain a statement that the statement is made under oath of affirmation and that its representations are true and correct to the best knowledge and belief of the person signing the statement, subject to the penalties of making a false affidavit or declaration.

3. The examination of qualified candidates for licensure to practice as physical therapist assistants shall embrace a written examination and which shall cover the curriculum taught in accredited associate degree programs of physical therapy assistant education. Such examination shall be sufficient to test the qualification of the candidates as practitioners. [The examination shall be given by the board at least once each year. The board shall not issue a license to practice as a physical therapist assistant or allow any person to sit for the Missouri state board examination for physical therapist assistants who has failed three or more times any physical therapist licensing examination administered in one or more states or territories of the United States or the District of Columbia. The examination given at any particular time shall be the same for all candidates and the same curriculum shall be included and the same questions shall be asked.]

4. The examination shall include, as related to the human body, the subjects of anatomy, kinesiology, pathology, physiology, psychology, physical therapy theory and procedures as related to medicine and such other subjects, including medical ethics, as the board deems useful to test the fitness of the candidate to practice as a physical therapist

assistant.

5. [Examination grades or scores shall be preserved by the board subject to public inspection. Examination papers retained by the board shall be subject to public inspection for a period of three years and thereafter may be destroyed.

6.] The board shall license without examination any legally qualified person who is a resident of this state and who was actively engaged in practice as a physical therapist assistant on August 28, 1993. The board may license such person pursuant to this subsection until ninety days after the effective date of this section.

[7.] 6. A candidate to practice as a physical therapist assistant who does not meet the educational qualifications may submit to the board an application for examination if such person can furnish written evidence to the board that the person has been employed in this state for at least three of the last five years under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist and such person possesses the knowledge and training equivalent to that obtained in an accredited school. The board may license such persons pursuant to this subsection until ninety days after rules developed by the state board of healing arts regarding physical therapist assistant licensing become effective.

334.660. The board shall license without examination legally qualified persons who hold certificates of licensure, registration or certification in any state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia, who have had no violations, suspensions or revocations of such license, registration or certification, if such persons have passed a written examination to practice as a physical therapist assistant that was substantially equal to the examination requirements of this state and in all other aspects, including education, the requirements for such certificates of licensure, registration or certification were, at the date of issuance, substantially equal to the requirements for licensure in this state. [The board shall not issue a license to any applicant who has failed three or more times any physical therapist assistant licensing examination administered in one or more states or territories of the United States or the District of Columbia.] Every applicant for a license pursuant to this section, upon making application and providing documentation of the necessary qualifications as provided in this section, shall pay the same fee required of applicants to take the examination before the board. Within the limits of this section, the board may negotiate reciprocal contracts with licensing boards of other states for the admission of licensed practitioners from Missouri in other states.

334.665. [Upon the applicant paying a temporary fee, the board shall issue, without examination, a temporary license to practice as a physical therapist assistant for a period of time not to exceed beyond the time when the results of the next examination are announced to any person who meets the qualifications of section 334.655. The temporary license may be renewed at the discretion of the board and upon payment of a temporary license fee.] **An applicant who has not been previously examined in another jurisdiction and meets**

the qualifications of subsection 1 of section 334.655 may pay a temporary license fee and submit an agreement-to-supervise form which is signed by the applicant's supervising physical therapist to the board and obtain without examination a nonrenewable temporary license. Such temporary licensee may only practice under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist. The board shall define the scope of such supervision by rules and regulations. The temporary license shall expire on either the date the applicant receives the results of the applicant's initial examination or within ninety days of its issuance, whichever occurs first.

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